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REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the final Official Action mailed January 9, 2008 (the "Action" or "Office Action.") and the Advisory Action of April 18, 2008 (the "Advisory Action"). Reconsideration of the application in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Second After-Final Response:

In response to the final Office Action, Applicant filed a first after-final response that included various amendments to the claims based on allowable subject matter identified by the Examiner. In the subsequent Advisory Action, the Examiner indicated that if the first after-final response were entered, all claims would be allowed except for claims 22-25.

Consequently, to expedite the allowance of this application, Applicant has here presented the same proposed amendments as in the first after-final response with the additional cancellation of claims 22-25. Therefore, according to the position taken by the Examiner in the Advisory Action, the present proposed amendment should place this application clearly in condition for allowance. Therefore, entry of this amendment and allowance of the above-identified patent application are respectfully requested.

Claim Status:

Under the imposition of a previous Restriction Requirement, claims 16-21, 26-28 and 34-46 were withdrawn from consideration and cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Additionally, claims 15, 31-33, 47 and 48 have been previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

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By the forgoing amendment, various claims have been amended and claims 3, 22-25, 29, 30 and 57 were cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new claims have been added.

Thus, claims 1, 2, 4-14, and 49-56 are currently pending for further action.

Allowable Subject Matter:

The recent Office Action indicated that claims 3, 9, 10, 12-14 and 54-57 contain allowable subject matter. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for this finding of allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, Applicant has herein proposed to:

- (1) amend claim 1 to include all the recitations of allowable claim 3;
- (2) amend claim 4 to include all the recitations of allowable claim 57; and
- (3) amend allowable claims 54, 55 and 56, rewriting each as an independent claim including all the recitations of former base claim, claim 4.

Therefore, upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1, 2, 4-14 and 49-56 would be in clear condition for allowance based on the allowable subject matter identified by the Examiner.

Amendment under 35 U.S.C. § 1.116:

Entry and consideration of this amendment are proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 for at least the following reasons. According to the position taken by the Examiner in the Advisory Action, the present proposed amendment should place this application clearly in condition for allowance. The amendment does not introduce any new claim language or raise new issues

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requiring further search or consideration. Therefore, entry of the present amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 and is hereby requested.

Objection to Claims:

The recent Office Action objects to claims 30 and 57. This objection is moot in view of the cancellation herein of those claims.

Prior Art:

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9-10 and 22-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,738,903 to Haines ("Haines"). This rejection is rendered moot by the proposed amendment which either cancels the rejected claims or patentably amends the claims as indicated by the Examiner in the Advisory Action.

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 11, 22-25, 49 and 50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combined teachings of U.S. Patent No. 5,807,005 to Wright ("Wright") and U.S. Patent App. Pub. No. 2002/0077979 to Nagata ("Nagata"). This rejection is rendered moot by the proposed amendment which either cancels the rejected claims or patentably amends the claims as indicated by the Examiner in the Advisory Action.

Finally, claims 1, 2, 4-8, 11, 22-25, 29 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combined teachings of U.S. Patent No. 6,081,850 to Garney ("Garney") and U.S. Patent No. 6,529,691 to Guy ("Guy"). This rejection is rendered moot by the proposed amendment which either cancels the rejected claims or patentably amends the claims as indicated by the Examiner in the Advisory Action.

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Conclusion:

In view of the following arguments, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance over the prior art of record. Therefore, this response is believed to be a complete response to the Office Action.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions which could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

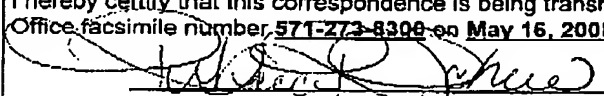
Respectfully submitted,

DATE: May 16, 2008

  
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<p align="center"><b>CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile number <u>571-273-8300</u> on <u>May 16, 2008</u>. Number of Pages: <u>16</u></p> <p> Rebecca R. Schow</p>
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